

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete set of the pending claims, including any amendments made by this paper, is set forth below:

1. (Amended) A clamp and hose assembly comprising:

a hose,

a clamp including a band having and a screw housing mounted to said band with a screw disposed in said screw housing, said screw engaging said band for tightening said band; and

a cover bracket having an opening receiving said screw housing, said cover bracket including a cover portion for the screw housing and a bonding surface extending from the cover portion for attaching the cover bracket to a hose, the bonding surface extending from the cover portion to a position on the hose that is displaced from the screw and the screw housing; and

an adhesive applied to the portion of the bonding surface displaced from the screw and screw housing, such that the cover bracket can be is adhered to the hose without interfering with the clamp operation.

2. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the bonding surface includes a pair of runners extending from the base of the cover.

3. (Original) The assembly of claim 2 wherein the runners are curved.

4. (Original) The assembly of claim 3 wherein the curvature of the runners is approximately the same curvature as the hose.

5. (Original) The assembly of claim 4 wherein the cover has an inverted U-shaped cross-section.

6. (Original) The assembly of claim 5 wherein the cover includes an inside surface having an inset that retains the screw housing within the cover when the screw is operated.

7. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 wherein the cover is made from nylon or high density polyethylene (HDPE).

8. (Amended) A cover bracket for attaching a clamp having a screw and screw housing to a hose comprising:

a cover portion that enclosed the screw housing when assembled with a hose; ;  
and a bonding surface extending from the cover portion to a position on the hose that  
is displaced from the screw and the screw housing; and

an adhesive applied to the portion of the bonding surface displaced from the  
screw and screw housing, such that the cover bracket can be is adhered to the hose without  
interfering with the clamp assembly.

9. (Original) The bracket of claim 8 wherein the bonding surface includes a pair of  
runners extending from the base of the cover.

10. (Original) The bracket of claim 9 wherein the runners are curved.

11. (Original) The bracket of claim 10 wherein the curvature of the runners is  
approximately the same curvature as the hose.

12. (Original) The bracket of claim 11 wherein the cover has an inverted U-shaped  
cross-section.

13. (Original) The bracket of claim 12 the cover includes an inside surface having an  
inset that retains the screw housing within the cover when the screw is operated.

14. (Original) The bracket of claim 1 wherein the bracket is made from nylon or  
HDPE.

15. (New) A clamp and hose assembly comprising:

a hose,  
a clamp including a band having and a screw housing mounted to said band with  
a screw disposed in said screw housing, said screw engaging said band for tightening said band;  
a cover bracket having an opening receiving said screw housing, said cover  
bracket including a cover portion for the screw housing and a pair of runners, said runners  
extending from the cover portion to a position on the hose that is displaced from the screw and  
the screw housing; and

an adhesive applied to the portion of the runners displaced from the screw  
housing without contaminating the screw or the screw housing, such that the cover bracket is  
adhered to the hose.

16. (New) The assembly of claim 15 wherein the screw includes a screw head and  
the cover is substantially coterminous with the screw housing.

17. (New) The assembly of claim 16 wherein the runners extend from a part of the  
cover proximate to the screw head.

18. (New) The assembly of claim 16 wherein the runners extend from a part of the cover distal from the screw head.

19. (New) The assembly of claim 15 wherein the runners are C-shaped, extending from a part of the cover proximate to the screw head and a part of the cover distal from the screw head, and the adhesive is applied to the portion of the C-shaped runners displaced from the screw and screw housing.

20. (New) The assembly of claim 15 wherein the cover includes an inside surface having an inset that retains the screw housing within the cover when the screw is operated.

21. (New) The assembly of claim 15 wherein the bracket is made from nylon or HDPE.